

TRIBUTE TO THE ROSEMARY  
GARFOOT PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to the Rosemary Garfoot Public Library in Cross Plains, Wisconsin, on the grand opening of its brand new facility. For nearly 40 years the library has been an impressive tribute to the people of Cross Plains.

The public library serves as the cornerstone of democracy, fostering intellectual freedom and making available to all citizens an extensive information network. In a local setting, citizens have access to global resources of information. The public library is critically important in improving the community by providing access to higher learning. It is certainly a requirement for a cultivated democratic society.

The public library allows citizens to perform the civic duties placed upon them in our democratic nation. It not only provides free access to worldwide information, but is a place where residents can obtain information about their community. It also serves as a place where Internet access, tax forms, and voter registration forms are provided. The role of the public library is essential in supporting a democratic state. The Rosemary Garfoot Public Library has gone beyond its civic duty in providing these services for the public.

To provide the public with a new library facility, the people of Cross Plains were committed to this important project since 2002. I am proud to recognize the efforts of a community that created a dream and followed through to success. I join the residents of Cross Plains in celebrating the grand opening of the newly expanded and renovated Rosemary Garfoot Public Library and wish them the best for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I regret that, due to my attendance at the swearing in ceremony of New Jersey Commissioner of Labor David Socolow, I missed three votes on July 24, 2006. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on S. 1496 (Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005), "yea" on S. 203 (National Heritage Areas Act of 2005) and "yea" on H.R. 5534 (To establish a grant program whereby moneys collected from violations of the corporate average fuel economy program are used to expand infrastructure necessary to increase the availability of alternative fuels).

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND  
DR. LEROY JOHNSON, PASTOR,  
MISSIONARY TEMPLE C.M.E.  
CHURCH

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize City of Fairfield resident Dr. (Colonel) Leroy Johnson, Pastor, for his dedication and commitment to his church and community.

Dr. Johnson, who was licensed to preach in 1952, has served the Missionary Temple C.M.E. Church since 1989. Prior to joining the C.M.E. Church, Dr. Johnson was president of Miles College, which has a proud history of producing teachers, preachers, community leaders and politicians, in Birmingham, AL.

In 1963, Dr. Johnson entered the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps where he held various assignments which included pastoring the largest Protestant military/civilian congregation in Western Europe.

During his pastorate in Kaiserslautern, West Germany, the gospel singers and services that exist on all American military posts, bases, stations, and ships today were created.

He was the first African American to receive a line officer's commission under the Navy Reserve Officer Candidate Program and had the distinction of being a member of the Navy's first atomic bomb testing team in the South Pacific Marshall Islands.

After serving in the U.S. Army and Navy during a career that included world conflicts such as the Korean War and Vietnam, Dr. Johnson retired with the rank of Colonel.

Included amongst his 25 military awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and the Navy Unit Citation.

Dr. Johnson holds a Ph.D. from Kansas State University and has attained three masters degrees from Chapman University.

As the officers and members of Missionary Temple C.M.E. Church pay tribute to Dr. Johnson during the "This is your Life" Celebration, I wish Dr. Johnson, his wife, Simmie Mae, and daughter, Leana, many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE  
FIRST CLASS JUSTIN RAY DAVIS

**HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express the heartfelt condolences of a grateful nation and to honor the life of PFC Justin Ray Davis of Gaithersburg, MD. PFC Justin Davis was killed on June 25 near the village of Kandalay, located in the Kunar Province in Afghanistan, from wounds sustained during combat operations as part of Operation Mountain Thrust. PFC Justin Davis, 19, was assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division of the U.S. Army. A native of Gaithersburg, MD, Private First Class Davis entered the Army in June 2005 and trained at Fort Benning, GA, to be

an infantryman. His strong patriotism and desire to defend our freedoms led him to join the military immediately after graduating from Magruder High School in May, 2005, where he was active in the Junior ROTC and a starter on the varsity football team. Private First Class Davis was a loving son and leaves behind his mother, Paula Davis, and father, Dennis Johnson. May God bless them and comfort them during this very difficult time.

We owe this brave soldier and his family a tremendous debt of gratitude for his selfless service and sacrifice. Our country could not maintain its freedom and security without heroes like Private First Class Davis. He made the ultimate sacrifice. Americans, as well as Afghans, owe their liberty to Private First Class Davis and his fallen comrades. Private First Class Davis was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his actions in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, for his heroism and service to his country, please join me in honoring the life of PFC Justin Ray Davis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on July 24, 2006, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather prohibiting my travel.

On rollcall vote Nos. 394, 395, and 396, if present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING DR. NORMA  
BAGNALL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dr. Norma Bagnall of Saint Joseph, MO. Dr. Bagnall retired from teaching in 1996, she has served the community ever since and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Bagnall came to Missouri after obtaining a bachelors, masters, and doctorate degree from Texas A&M University. She joined the staff of Missouri Western State University in Saint Joseph, MO, in the early 1980's as an assistant professor of English and later gained a full professorship. She retired from Missouri Western in 1996 and began a long list of service to the community.

Norma has been a champion of literacy in the community. She has led the Runcie Club book study group for the past 6 years, and established the Hayes Bagnall Literacy Scholarship at Missouri Western and the Writer's Workshop at the Joyce Raye Patterson Senior Center. Then, during the summer of 2005, she developed a community class to teach conversational Spanish. That program became so successful that it had to be adopted by Inter-Serv, in order to accommodate the 110 students and additional 115 people on a waiting list.